

News Release

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USDA REPORTS COMMODITY LOAN ACTIVITY AS OF DECEMBER 16, 1997

WASHINGTON, December 23, 1997 -- A report of commodity loan activity for grains, cotton, oilseeds, honey and sugar as of December 16, 1997, was issued today by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA).

Detailed information showing a breakdown of each commodity by state and by farm and warehouse storage is available on the second floor, Main Lobby, of USDA's Kansas City Commodity Office, 9200 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO and from the Economic Policy Analysis Staff of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Room 3740-S, South Building, here.

The data in this weekly report are preliminary and subject to adjustment and verification. Any needed adjustment will be made in the monthly reports of loan activity which USDA issues on or about the 10th working day of the month, depending upon availability of data.

Further program information is available from Brenda Chewning, (202) 720-8838, E-mail address bchewnin@wdc.fsa.usda.gov

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NOTE: Farm Service Agency (FSA) news releases and media advisories are available on the World Wide Web at FSA's Home Page: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

Price Support Loan Activity Reported as of December 16, 1997

Item	Wheat	Corn	Grain Sorghum		Barley	Oats	Rye
	Million Bushels		Mil. Bu.	Mil. Cwt.	Million Bushels		
1996 Crop							
Put Under Loan	194.2	970.2	20.4	11.4	28.7	1.5	
Redeemed	189.9	964.4	20.0	11.2	27.9	1.5	
Acquired by CCC	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
9-Mo Outstanding	4.3	5.8	0.4	0.2	0.8	0.0	
1997 Crop							
Put Under Loan	187.8	561.2	9.6	5.4	21.7	1.9	
Redeemed	21.6	5.1	0.5	0.3	2.2	0.1	
Acquired by CCC	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
9-Mo Outstanding	166.2	556.1	9.1	5.1	19.5	1.8	
Tot 9-Mo Outstand	170.5	561.9	9.5	5.3	20.3	1.8	0.0

Item	Soybeans	Cotton		Rice	Honey	Sugar	
		Upland 1/	ELS			Beet	Cane
	Mil. Bu.	1,000 Running Bales		Mil. Cwt.		Million Pounds	
1996 Crop							
Put Under Loan	195.9	3,339.4	39.6	68.9		1,167.7	669.9
Redeemed	195.5	3,330.6	39.6	68.9		1,167.7	669.9
Acquired by CCC	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0
9-Mo Outstanding	0.4	4.1	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0
1997 Crop							
Put Under Loan	171.5	1,535.1		58.6		348.5	183.0
Redeemed	2.9	247.8		3.4		26.5	0.0
Acquired by CCC	0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0	0.0
9-Mo Outstanding	168.6	1,287.3		55.2		322.0	183.0
Tot 9-Mo Outstand	169.0	1,291.4	0.0	55.2	0.0	322.0	183.0

Item	Sunflower Seed		Flaxseed	Canola Seed	Safflower Seed	Mustard Seed	Rapeseed
	Oil	Other					
	1,000 Cwt.						
1996 Crop							
Put Under Loan	2,076	458	22	96	5		
Redeemed	2,007	434	21	93	5		
Acquired by CCC	7	0	0	0	0		
9-Mo Outstanding	62	24	1	3	0		
1997 Crop							
Put Under Loan	1,816	153	41	222	2	18	
Redeemed	41	4	1	24	0	5	
Acquired by CCC	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9-Mo Outstanding	1,775	149	40	198	2	13	
Tot 9-Mo Outstand	1,837	173	41	201	2	13	0

1/Cotton loans are for 10 months rather than 9 months.